Graphic Organizers: Music

I found the graphic organizer “Some vocabulary for reviewing songs and music, (how to write a music/song review) the most valuable in regards to my content area of music performance. Often it is a challenge to incorporate writing into my curriculum, many times which is also a school-wide goal. This organizer lays out 5 general topics to cover in the music review and then connects those topics to specific vocabulary that students can use. As I have seen in the past, many students have unique insights into what they are listening too and often aggressive opinions as well, but do not know how to actively process what they are thinking into a cohesive statement on paper. This graphic organizer suggests vocabulary that students might have already had, increases vocabulary that they might have not had, makes connections to general music terms and music vocabulary, as well as cross content connections. This organizer is one I will use in the future as an aid to students, in the past I have written on the board specific questions or terms to be used while they are writing, which has been somewhat effective, but not in graphic organizer form. This organizer I believe can be a lot more effective in improving students writing comprehension as well as communicating what they are processing after listening to music. The other music graphic organizer, Brainstorming for songs and music, can be effective in a general music, music theory, or ensemble class. When listening, analyzing, or performing music, using this graphic organizer as possibly a bell ringer or exit ticket could be quite useful in creating greater understanding of the wide scope of connections that can be made when considering music in general. This organizer describes and lays out, from the central topic of music, a wide web of possibilities to consider when listening or performing. This can be another useful tool when differentiating instruction, and can open students to a wider view of how they perceive music, as a more complex and varied academic and creative field.